


September 14, 2020

Exhibit 8

HOW WESTERN STATES MANAGED PUBLIC ACCESS


COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS & SESSION:

ALASKA




No public. Legislators encouraged to go through screening and wear a mask. Only one refused. Media and staff required to go through screening and wear a mask. Nobody failed screening. Public allowed to participate via tv and online streaming. No in-person testimony allowed, except for administration officials and testimony deemed critical in person.

NEW MEXICO




Legislative Council closed the Capitol. Decision challenged. Upheld by Supreme Court. Public comment allowed at discretion of chair. Public participated through a separate access room on Zoom that staff controlled. Two or three offensive calls and they were terminated quickly.

WYOMING




Special session via Zoom. Some members at capitol but met through laptops. Limited number of media members allowed. Session broadcast via the Legislature's YouTube channel. Public could email or call legislators.

CALIFORNIA




Legislative sessions broadcast on internet, cable access, and monitors outside Capitol. Public allowed to call into committee hearings to offer comments as they usually would.

OREGON




Capitol closed to the public and lobbyists. Members present an limited press. Committees and floor sessions online. Committees mostly virtual. Set up a walk up testimony station outside the building.

HAWAII




Written testimony submitted online. Hearings and floor sessions live streamed. Some witnesses testify via Zoom.

NEVADA




Proceedings streamed live on internet. Legislature hosted its own YouTube channel to help with bandwidth. Public comment taken via phone. Most public comment limited to two minutes (for the special sessions) and written testimony and handouts were encouraged. Handouts from the public posted to web.

COLORADO



Most members of the public participated electronically, but many came in person. Sign up electronically to testify in committee or submit written testimony. Lobbyists and media granted greater electronic access to legislators than usual. Overflow rooms, closed loop video, and strict management of witnesses. Masks required, but not enforced. Committee chairs six feet apart. A few places were available in galleries. A volunteer organization provided optional health screenings at Capitol entries and at the entry to the House or Senate, most people complied.

IDAHO



Special session August 24. Plan limiting access to the committee rooms and the chamber viewing areas. Adhere to maximum occupancy limits. Viewing rooms for streamed committees and floor sessions.